

Red nose day...

Friday 19th March

Early Years and Pre-Prep pupils are invited to come to school in their pyjamas or onesies in aid of Red Nose Day. Please bring £1.



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



FRIDAY 12TH MARCH
SPRING TERM

NEWS FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents,

It has been an absolute pleasure to be in school with all the children this week. They have been superb, settling back into classes, lessons, friendships, and the 'normal' routine. They have been keen to tell us what they are up to and to catch up with conversations missed.

The simple act of sitting down for lunch with Year 6 has been joyful. Most of them now have chosen their new school for next year and I and all the staff have been thrilled with the success they have had. A really good number of Grammar School places have been confirmed and there are an amazing number of Scholarships to the local Independent Schools too. Huge congratulations to all in Year 6 and to the staff, over the years, who have ensured this success. For a non-selective school, I am always very proud of the incredible achievements of the Berky pupils.

This week has included many hands-on and practical challenges for the children and it was great to see Year 6 using the programmable 'Spheros' in their computing lessons. These devices have remarkable capabilities, and it is up to the children to work out the algorithms required for the tasks set. A collaborative and trial-and-error approach is essential - and Berky children are good at this.

On Wednesday, I enjoyed a great afternoon on the football pitch with the Prep boys. You could see that the skills were rusty and the fitness levels not what they were last term, but they still thoroughly enjoyed the practice and game - and showed good teamwork. Fixtures are not possible this term but we have scheduled the usual fixtures for the Summer term and shall wait and see what is possible after Easter. We are also looking at the possibility of swimming sessions for the children in Years 1 and 2. We will be in touch when we know more.

May I remind parents that Berkhampstead is very much part of the local community and ask that you are considerate of our neighbours when dropping off and picking up. Please take care with parking and do not obstruct driveways. Thank you.

Richard

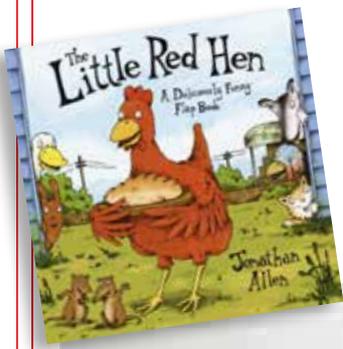
Richard Cross
Headmaster

Diary dates

THE WEEK AHEAD

Thursday 18 March
10.00 - Year 6 General Knowledge online quiz
2.00pm - Year 5 General Knowledge online quiz





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



News from Early Years

Firstly, we would like to say a huge thank you for supporting your children so well throughout the past eight weeks. We have been delighted and encouraged by all the photographs and positive feedback we have received during what has been a difficult time for us all. The whole Reception team want to pass on their thanks and congratulations to all of you for making this time work in the best way you could. The children have returned to school with great confidence and it is wonderful to see them back in the classrooms interacting with each other and clearly enjoying each other's company!

This week in Kindergarten we have been reading the story of 'The Little Red Hen' and learning how important it is to help others. During our tidy up times the children listen to 'Here Comes the Sun' by The Beatles and this helps them to focus on completing the job within a specific time. I am so proud how everyone has tried to care for each other and help; we have all been Helpful Harrys this week.

The 'Little Red Hen' story inspired us to taste different breads from around the world; our favourites were hot cross bun, naan and pitta bread. Here are some of the children's comments:

'I liked the cross on the hot cross bun!' Finley

'I liked to eat all of the breads' Eliyas

'I liked the wholemeal bread because there were holes in it' Tobias

'I liked the raisins in the hot cross bun' Freddie

'I love all bread' Kitty

'I only like the naan bread, I like the naan bits in it' Heath

On Thursday, the children made their own bread rolls to share and eat at home; we would like to thank Alex who cooks our delicious lunches as he very kindly cooked our rolls for us in the school's kitchen. The children helped to mix the ingredients together and then everyone was given a small piece of dough to knead and before creating their own unique bread roll. Yummy!!

Meanwhile it has been a busy first week back in Reception with lots of activities occurring to make Mother's Day a very special day for you. The children have loved creating and making cards for this special day and have so far been very secretive!

Reception children are continuing to enjoy their theme of 'Traditional Tales.' They loved reading 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and all our activities have been centred around the story - from story maps and measuring beanstalks to planting beans. The children enjoyed planting beans and discussed what plants need to grow: plenty of water, warmth and light. The children decided to become scientists and conduct an experiment; one bean will be planted and put in the dark and checked weekly to see what happens.





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



Berky Brollies

These splendid Berky umbrellas are available from the School Office for £25.

